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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Terunao HANAOKA

Group Art Unit: 2826

Application No.: 10/654,424

Examiner: A. Williams

Filed: September 4, 2003

Docket No.: 117031

For: WIRING BOARD, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME,
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, CIRCUIT BOARD, AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

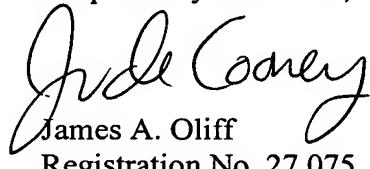
In reply to the June 9, 2004 Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects the Species corresponding to Fig. 3. At least claims 1-17 read on the elected Species and at least claim 1 is generic. The election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid

unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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JAO:JLC/aaw

Date: July 9, 2004

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